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Good Morning! It's Sunday, August 24, 1980

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Airplanes get a bath for charity

By Diana Fischer
Missourian staff writer

Why would 15 people spend a sunny Saturday washing other people's airplanes?

Because they need the money. Not for themselves, but for charity. That's what brought 15 members of Columbia Jaycee Women, and some loyal husbands, out to Columbia Regional Airport Saturday, loaded down with buckets, rags and cans of wax. They were there to raise money for the group's project fund, which each year donates money to local service and community organizations.

Without funds, there can be no donations. And that's why they were scrub-a-dubbing beside the Central Missouri Aviation Inc. hangar.

The group had its first plane wash last August. Nancy Sublette, chairman of the project, contacted plane owners and asked if their craft needed cleaning. The Jaycee Women ended up washing eight planes in about the same number of hours.

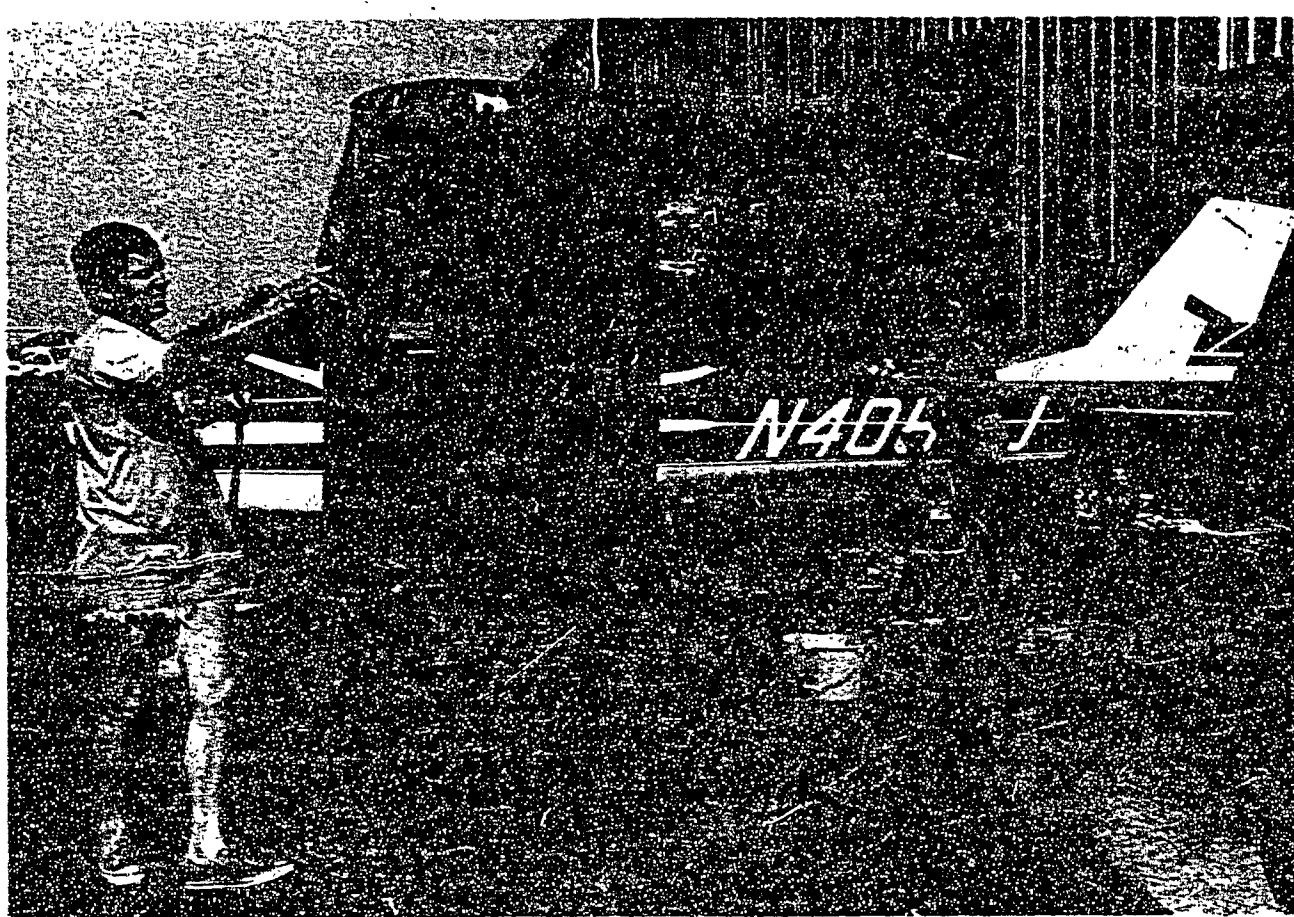
"It was almost too much for us," said Shelley Simon, the group's vice president.

The group donated the \$135 they earned from that project to the Labor Day Telethon for muscular dystrophy research.

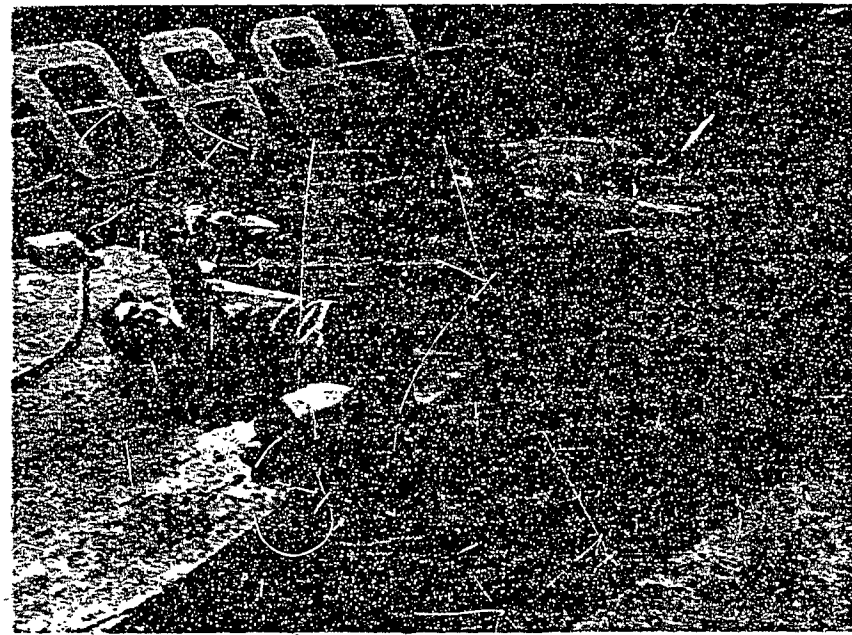
Mrs. Simon said the unconventional project was a hit with the group, whose membership is open to women between the ages of 18 and 35. "It's a different idea with the potential for making more money," she said.

Members, dressed in old clothes, arrived for the first of three two-hour shifts at 9:30 a.m. After Ms. Sublette gave some basic instructions on plane washing and Mrs. Simon warned, "Don't yell if someone gets you with the hose - it's a mistake!" everyone went to work.

Don Sapp, a lineman for Central Missouri Aviation, towed a red and white single-engine Cessna 150 to the hangar with a tag tractor. Wearing rubber gloves to protect their hands



Tammy Lecher



Tammy Lecher

from the heavy-duty, solvent-base detergent, the first washing crew started at the tail and moved along the bottom of the plane until the whole craft was clean. Ms. Sublette said the hardest part to clean was the belly, where bugs accumulate.

At 5 feet one-half inch (1.5 meters) tall Jerri Sergeant, Jaycee Women secretary, was just the right height to walk under the wings, scrubbing all the way along their length.

Anyone who thought he could stay dry and clean was fooling himself.

Between detergent running down their arms and water ricocheting off the sides of the plane, everyone got wet. And of course there were a few well-positioned squirts of the hose, but no one complained.

Though most people had to lie on their backs in puddles of water, Ms. Sublette lay down on a creeper-crawler and slid along the underside of the plane.

Once the Cessna was clean, the group dried and waxed it until it shone in the midday sun.

The Cessna was a \$40 wash-and-

Craig Simon, above, hoses down an airplane wing as Nancy Sublette towels off the plane's back. At left, Ms. Sublette hits the deck to scrub the plane's underside, where accumulated bugs forced the volunteers to apply a little elbow grease.

wax job. The next plane, a Beechcraft Duke twin-engine, considerably larger than the Cessna, brought in \$75. Three more grimy aircraft will have to wait another week for their Saturday morning baths.

This will not be the Jaycee Women's last fund-raiser this year. They already are planning to sell helium-filled balloons and refreshments in front of the First National Bank Oct. 18 and to hold a craft bazaar Oct. 31.

One thing's for sure — the volunteers those days won't get quite as wet as everyone did Saturday.

Deputy premier meets leaders of Polish strikes

GDANSK, Poland (UPI) — Leaders of Poland's striking workers and government officials met Saturday night in their first negotiating session for 2 1/2 hours of sometimes stormy discussion that produced no agreements, but strike leaders said it was "only a beginning."

Mieczyslaw Jagielski, first deputy premier, returned to Warsaw following the meeting, reportedly to prepare for a plenary session of the Communist Party Central Committee that will be held this afternoon.

The negotiating session was to resume without him today.

The talks — which represented a victory for the strikers who paralyzed the Baltic industrial area in seeking recognition from Poland's communist government — began on a bitter note.

Strike committee delegates discovered the government had not repaired severed communications lines in the Gdansk region in time for the meeting as promised.

There were some sharp exchanges as Jagielski began speaking and several delegates shouted that the talks should be broken off.

Strike leader Lech Walesa cut in, however, and urged moderation for the sake of keeping the talks alive. His appeal worked and the delegates allowed Jagielski to finish speaking without further interruption.

The government official reviewed the strikers' 21-point list of political and economic demands. He avoided rejecting any point outright, but he said he agreed with the strikers on only one of the 21 issues — the committee's demand that no striker should lose his or her job because of participation in the walkout.

Jagielski's sharpest comments came in connection with the strikers' demand for a \$67 monthly wage increase.

"That would be unrealistic and unfair," he said. "It would fuel galloping inflation."

After the talks recessed, Walesa went outside the conference hall building in the shipyard to address the crowd that had been listening to the session over loudspeakers.

Power failed in the outdoor microphone, so Walesa scaled the 10-foot (3-meter) fence at the front of the yard, surveyed the crowd of 8,000 people that had gathered to hear the talks and told them, "This is only the beginning."

The striking workers and other residents of Gdansk who had gathered roared with approval, and many held

their hands high in the air in a V-for-victory sign. They sang Poland's national anthem before dispersing well after 10:30 p.m.

Jagielski's low-key manner personified what seemed to be the government's new policy in connection with the labor crisis: markedly less criticism of the strikers and their leaders, in favor of comments congratulating them for preserving state property so well during the walkouts.

The regime's abrupt switch from tough talk to a position advocating "dialogue" apparently reflected a high-level policy change as a result of the growing cost of the 10-day walkout by an estimated 200,000 workers.

Strikes continued to spread Saturday but the focus was on the negotiations in Gdansk, set in motion by a breakthrough meeting the night before between three strike leaders and the chief government negotiator, First Deputy Premier Mieczyslaw Jagielski.

Strike leader Lech Walesa, a 37-year-old electronics technician who was fired four years ago for political activity at the Lenin shipyards in Gdansk, was greeted by cheers and songs when he announced the government's agreement to start talks.

"May you live 100 years," the workers sang, using the tune and message that became familiar worldwide during Pope John Paul II's visit to his native Poland last year.

"We have been winning so far," Walesa told the workers, "but now we have to prepare for a further battle."

Recognition of the joint strike committee as bargaining agent for all of the nearly 400 factories, workshops and cooperatives taking part in the Gdansk strikes has been the prime goal of the workers for the past week.

The workers regard their committee — they call it the Inter-factory Strike Committee, — as the forerunner of the free trade union movement they want to establish in Poland in place of the present Communist Party-controlled system.

Free trade unions are anathema to the state, which has been denouncing the strike leaders as "anti-socialist elements." But sources said the mushrooming strikes and their cost to the economy — more than \$25 million per day according to official estimates — have made the government re-think its policy in the present crisis.

Two firms hold high cards in regional mall game

By Alan Gathright
Missourian staff writer

It's been called the biggest poker game in Columbia.

The developers' race to establish a regional mall, in a market that experts say can support only one.

The game once ran as high as six players, but the May Department Store Co., of St. Louis, and General Growth Development Corp., of Des Moines, Iowa, hold the high hands now.

The two developers have faced federal scrutiny, zoning battles and a lawsuit in their effort to capture the regional market, but the stakes are well worth the time and money invested. In the first year of operation May Co. and General Growth estimate their malls will generate \$45 million and \$42 million, respectively.

Regional malls are characterized by two or more "anchor" department stores, with smaller national and local retail stores clustered in the development. Right now, Columbia lacks such a major fashion-oriented department store, allowing consumer dollars to escape to Kansas City and St. Louis.

Sealing a deal with an anchor store that would capture those dollars may signal victory for one developer.

"In the end, the real test of who wins the race — who gets to build — may well be who signs up the anchors first," City Planner Mike Bathke said.

Although the May Co. site, south of the city on the Perry Phillips farm, has not received complete rezoning from the Boone County Court — as General Growth has from the City Council — it seems to be ahead in the battle to nail down

Insight

the anchor.

"I think it's reasonable to assume that a May Centers development will contain a Famous-Barr," Art Spellmeyer, project manager for the May Co. development.

Famous-Barr is a sister firm of the May Co. Spellmeyer has mentioned Sears, Roebuck and Co., J.C. Penney Co., Stix Baer & Fuller or Jones Store Co. as candidates for the mall's second anchor.

Asked about his firm's success in the same endeavor, Neil Broderick, vice president of General Growth, said, "We're continuing to work toward selecting an anchor" for the com-

pany's Marshal Gordon site on Stadium Boulevard.

Broderick stressed that only one mall will be built. "It's not that two malls will be built and one drops out," he said.

Spellmeyer agreed. "Two regional malls, at this Aug. 22, 1980 date, certainly wouldn't do well" in the Columbia market.

Anchor stores aside, the May Co. faces other obstacles. A group of businessmen and environmentalists recently filed a lawsuit challenging the county court's rezoning of the Phillips site. The suit names as defendants the May Co., Perry and Ella Phillips, owners of the site, and the county court.

In addition, the May Co. must satisfy the court's 14 conditions for rezoning.

"They've got a lot of work to do to perfect that zoning," Bathke said. "There are a boat-

load of conditions attached to that."

The most critical conditions set down by the court include:

- State and federal approval of an interchange on U.S. Highway 63 crucial to the viability of the May Co.'s mall. The firm must also persuade the University to sell some prime agricultural land needed for the interchange.

- The Missouri Department of Natural Resources' approval of storm water management, erosion control and waste water treatment.

The DNR has never strongly favored the site. "Perry Phillips is the least desirable site from the point of view of soils, geology, water quality, public transportation and impact on recreational resources," a March DNR study said.

Opposition from one of these bodies could

(See MALL, Page 9A)

Panel says rescue mission flawed

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The American hostages in Iran may have lost their best chance for freedom because of too few helicopters and too much secrecy in the high-risk U.S. rescue mission launched last April, a special military review panel said Saturday.

Two more helicopters might not have guaranteed success, but would have improved the mission's chances in the daring raid across the hostile desert, the panel said.

But it added that "no one action or lack of action" was responsible for the failure of the raid.

The chairman of the panel set up by the Joint Chiefs of Staff said there was no evidence of "culpable neglect or incompetence" in the planning or execution of the mission that cost the lives of eight servicemen and failed to rescue the 53 American hostages.

"We came to the conclusion that the plan, as executed, was the only reasonable way to do the job," Ret. Adm. J.L. Holloway III told a Pentagon news conference. It was the "best chance for success under the circumstances," he said.

But Holloway declined to say if he would have endorsed such a complex and daring plan today on the basis of the information the panel gathered.

He refused to make a public judgment on the performance of the overall mission commander, Army Maj. Gen. James Vaught. But after a news conference Saturday, the Pentagon issued a statement in Holloway's name saying there was no more experienced and competent candidate to serve as commander.

The review of the April 24-25 mission by active and retired general staff officers assessed no specific blame for the failure. The basic concept of the mission was sound, they judged, but it came to grief through several factors.

Under the plan, eight helicopters based on the carrier Nimitz in the Persian Gulf were to rendezvous with six C-130 transport planes in an Iranian salt desert 250 miles south of Tehran on April 24. There the copters were to be refueled and flown to a mountain hideout near Tehran where the commandos would wait during the day. Details of the actual freeing of the hostages have never been officially disclosed.

Six copters were considered the minimum necessary and eight were assigned for a safety margin.

But one helicopter crew was blinded by a desert sandstorm and returned to the Nimitz during the mission. Another chopper was abandoned en route to the

rendezvous because of navigational equipment failure. At the Desert One staging area the vital sixth chopper was knocked out by hydraulic problems.

Planners said if 10 helicopters had been used instead of eight, it would have required another C-130 to ferry fuel and could have imperiled secrecy, but Holloway said the panel disagreed.

"It was felt to have the proper margins of fuel, that 10 was too many. We suggest that 10 perhaps could have been accommodated without additional fuel in the desert," Holloway said.

The helicopter failure made Vaught decide to abort the mission shortly before dawn. In refueling the helicopters for the return to the Nimitz, a rotor blade slashed into one of the C-130s, and eight servicemen died in the fire and explosion.

The panel found an "overriding concern" with secrecy contributed to several defects in the mission:

- Strict radio silence barred the exchange of essential information during the flight of the eight Sea Stallion helicopters. The commander of the helicopter which turned back in the sandstorm indicated later he would have continued if he had known visibility was acceptable further ahead. The re-

port said the use of a C-130 Pathfinder to lead the helicopters through the sandstorm and to Desert One would have decreased chances of failure due to weather.

The panel said the failure to hold a full-dress rehearsal contributed to the "tenuous" command and control at intermediate levels. The mission was "susceptible to misunderstandings under pressure" because some servicemen were not familiar with the other members of the raiding party.

Surprise was obviously a key factor in staging a rescue of the U.S. hostages in Tehran, it said, but more "selectivity and flexibility" in secrecy and security considerations might have improved the mission's chances.

During the hurried evacuation of Desert One, all the remaining helicopters were abandoned, as well as classified materials they contained.

Holloway said the field commander made a proper decision not to try to retrieve the documents because ammunition was exploding and the entire raiding party was endangered. But he said the mission should have placed more emphasis on planning for a proper withdrawal and destruction of classified documents with prepared explosive charges on the craft.

Inside today

In her footsteps

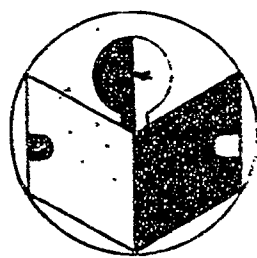
As a Russian prima ballerina, she has dazzled audiences world-wide with her delicate grace. But now Mrs. Messerer is 71 years old and has left her homeland to lead young Americans in her footsteps. To see the fluid art she created with Missouri students, turn to this week's Vibrations.

Wheelchair tennis

Two local women have pioneered a new variation on the game of tennis. Ellen Scheer, one-time coach of Missouri's women's tennis team, and Norma Stumbo, the director of Independent Living for Tod-Comp, play tennis in wheelchairs. Story on Page 8A.

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In town today

10 a.m. Final round, Sixth Annual Columbia Championship Golf Tournament, Country Club of Missouri. Free.

Monday

4:30 p.m. Boone County Hospital trustees meeting. Hospital conference room, 1600 E. Broadway.

7 p.m. City budget work session. Council chamber, County-City Building, Seventh Street and Broadway.

8 p.m. Dinner theater, "Two by Two," Columbia Entertainment Co., Tiger Hotel, 23 S. Eighth St., \$12.50.